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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 22, 26 and 34 are amended. A complete set of the claims with their current status is shown below.

1-21. (Canceled)

- 22. (Currently amended) A method comprising:
- contacting a <u>free</u> metal ion to an initial complex comprising a target and a probe labeled with a transition metal ligand complex to produce an electrically conductive complex; and, applying a potential to the electrically conductive complex to produce a detectable signal.
- 23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 22, wherein said initial complex comprises a hybridized nucleic acid target and probe.
- 24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 22, wherein said transition metal ligand complex comprises ruthenium, osmium or iridium.
- 25. (Previously presented) The method of claim 22, wherein said metal ion is an ion of nickel, zinc or cobalt.
 - 26. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

maintaining a composition comprising a target and a probe labeled with a transition metal ligand complex under conditions suitable for producing target/probe complexes;

contacting said composition with a <u>free</u> metal ion to form a doped composition; and, applying a potential to said doped composition in order to produce a detectable signal from any target/probe complexes produced.

27. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein said potential is an electrical potential.

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- 28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein said transition metal ligand complex comprises ruthenium, osmium or iridium.
- 29. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein said metal ion is an ion of nickel, zinc or cobalt.
- 30. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein said target is immobilized on a solid support.
- 31. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein said solid support is an addressable array.
- 32. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein said probe is immobilized on a solid support.
- 33. (Previously presented) The method of claim 26, wherein said solid support is an addressable array.
 - 34. (Currently amended) A method comprising:

hybridizing a target and a probe labeled with a transition metal ligand complex to form a first complex;

contacting said first complex with a <u>free</u> metal ion to form an electrically conductive second complex; and,

applying a potential to said electrically conductive complex to produce a detectable signal.

- 35. (Previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein said potential is an electrical potential.
- 36. (Previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein said transition metal ligand complex comprises ruthenium, osmium or iridium.
 - 37. (Previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein said metal ion is an ion

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of nickel, zinc or cobalt.

- 38. (Previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein said target is immobilized on a solid support.
- 39. (Previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein said solid support is an addressable array.
- 40. (Previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein said probe is immobilized on a solid support.
- 41. (Previously presented) The method of claim 34, wherein said solid support is an addressable array.